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TREATY

BETWEEN THE

PRESIDENT *and* COUNCIL

OF THE

Province of ^{*Palmer (A.)*} PENNSYLVANIA,

AND THE

INDIANS of OHIO,

Held at PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 13. 1747.



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T R E A T Y, &c.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, the 13th of November, 1747.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable ANTHONY PALMER, Esq; President.

<i>Thomas Lawrence,</i>	<i>Samuel Hassell,</i>	} Esqrs.
<i>William Till,</i>	<i>Abraham Taylor,</i>	
<i>Robert Strettell,</i>	<i>Benjamin Shoemaker,</i>	
<i>Joseph Turner,</i>	<i>William Logan,</i>	

THE *Indian Warriors* from *Ohio*, having arriv'd in Town on *Wednesday*, the President sent them a Message Yesterday, by Mr. *Weiser*, the Interpreter, to bid them welcome: And understanding that they were desirous to be heard To-day, he summon'd the Council for this Purpose. Mr. *Weiser* attending, he was sent to tell the *Indians* the Council was fitting, and ready to receive them. They immediately came. The President inform'd them, the Council were glad to see their Brethren, took their Visit very kindly, and desired to know what they had to communicate.

After a Pause, the principal Warrior rose up, and spoke as follows :

Brethren, the English, the Governor of York, the Commissioners at Albany, the Governor and Councillors of Pennsylvania,

WE who speak to you are Warriors, living at *Ohio*, and address you on Behalf of ourselves, and the rest of the Warriors of the *Six Nations*.

You will, perhaps, be surprized at this unexpected Visit ; but we cou'd not avoid coming to see you, the Times are become so critical and dangerous. We are of the *Six Nations*, who are your ancient Friends, having made many Treaties of Friendship with the *English*, and always preserv'd the Chain bright. You know when our Father, the Governor of *Canada*, declar'd War against our Brethren, the *English*, you the Governor of *New-York*, the Commissioners of *Indian Affairs* at *Albany*, the Commissioners for this Province, sent to inform the Council at *Onondago* of it, and to desire that they wou'd not meddle with the War ; that they wou'd only look on, and see what wou'd be done ; that we, the *Indians*, wou'd let you fight it out by yourselves, and not pity either Side ; and that we would send to all the Nations in Alliance with us, to do the same : And accordingly the *Indians* did send to all their Friends and Allies, and particularly to the *Indians* about the Lakes, and in the
Places

Places where we live, requesting they wou'd not engage on either Side; and they all stood Neuters, except the *French Praying Indians*, who, tho' they promis'd, yet were not as good as their Words. This is the first Thing we have to say to our Brethren, and we hope they will receive this in good Part, and be willing to hear what we have further to say.

Brethren,

When the *Indians* received the first Message from the *English*, they thought the *English* and *French* would fight with one another at Sea, and not suffer War to be made on the Land: But some Time after this, Messengers were sent by all the *English* to *Onondago*, to tell us that the *French* had begun the War on the Land in the *Indian* Countries, and had done a great deal of Mischief to the *English*, and they now desired their Brethren, the *Indians*, would take up the Hatchet against the *French*, and likewise prevail with their Allies to do the same. The old Men at *Onondago* however refus'd to do this, and would adhere to the Neutrality; and on their declaring this, the *English* sent other Messengers again and again, who pressed earnestly that the *Indians* would take up their Hatchet, but they were still denied by the old Men at the Fire at *Onondago*, who, unwilling to come into the War, sent Message after Message to *Canada* and *Albany*, to desire both Parties would fight it out at Sea. At last the young *Indians*, the Warriors, and Captains, consulted together, and resolved to take up the *English* Hatchet against the Will of their old People, and to lay their old People aside, as of no Use but in Time of Peace. This the young Warriors have done, provoked to it by the repeated Applications of our Brethren the *English*; and we now come to tell you, that the *French* have hard Heads, and that we have nothing strong enough to break them. We have only little Sticks, and Hickeries, and such Things, that will do little or no Service against the hard Heads of the *French*: We therefore present this Belt, to desire that we may be furnished with better Weapons, such as will knock the *French* down; and in Token that we are hearty for you, and will do our best if you put better Arms into our Hands, we give you this Belt.

Here they gave a Belt of seven Rows.

Brethren,

When once we, the young Warriors, engaged, we put a great deal of Fire under our Kettle, and the Kettle boil'd high, and so it does still (*meaning they carried the War on briskly*) that the *Frenchmens* Heads might soon be boil'd. But when we look'd about us, to see how it was with the *English* Kettle, we saw the Fire was almost out, and that it hardly boil'd at all; and that no *Frenchmens* Heads were like to be in it. This truly surprizes us, and we are come down on Purpose to know the Reason of it. How comes it to pass, that the *English*, who brought us into the War, will not fight themselves? This has not a good Appearance, and therefore we give you this String of Wampum to hearten and encourage you, to desire you wou'd put more Fire under your Kettle.

Here they presented the String of Wampum of seven Strings.

Brethren,

We have now done with general Matters; but old *Scaiohady* desires to inform the Council, that he was here in *James Logan's* Time, a long Time ago, when he had but one Child, and he a little one: That he was then employed in the Affairs of the Government: That *James Logan* gave him this String, to assure

assure him, if ever he should come to want, and apply to this Government; they wou'd do something for him. *Scaiohady* is now grown old and infirm, and recommends himself to *James Logan's* and the Council's Charity.

Here he laid down a String of Wampum.

The *Indians* withdrew, and the Council adjourn'd to To-morrow Morning, Eleven a Clock.

In the Council-Chamber, 14th November 1747.

P R E S E N T,

<i>Thomas Lawrence,</i>	<i>Robert Strettell,</i>	} Esqrs.
<i>Benjamin Shoemaker,</i>	<i>William Logan,</i>	

THE President being indispos'd, and the other Members not attending, there could be no Council; the Members present, judg'd that before the Heads of an Answer to the Speech of the *Indians* could be considered, it was necessary previously to learn from Mr. *Weiser*, the particular History of these *Indians*, their real Disposition towards us, and their future Designs; and accordingly sent for him. He said the *Indians*, had in Part told him their Mind, and he thought they might be brought to tell him more; and when they did, he would inform the Council. The Members likewise judg'd, that it might be of Service to know Mr. *Logan's* Sentiments about what might be proper to be said to the *Indians*, and requested Mr. *Weiser* and the Secretary to wait on him for that Purpose.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, 16th November 1747.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable the PRESIDENT,

<i>Thomas Lawrence,</i>	<i>Samuel Hassel,</i>	} Esqrs.
<i>William Till,</i>	<i>Abr. Taylor,</i>	
<i>Robert Strettell,</i>	<i>Benj. Shoemaker,</i>	
<i>Thomas Hopkinson,</i>	<i>William Logan,</i>	

MR. *Weiser* attending was called in, and inform'd the Council, that he had learn'd the following Particulars from the *Indians*, viz. That last Summer the Governor of *Canada* had sent the Hatchet to the *Indians* about the Lakes, and on the Branches of *Ohio*; that one Nation took it up; and that these *Indians*, and the *Indians* in those Quarters, consisting principally of Warriors, being afraid others would do the like, to prevent this took up the *English* Hatchet, and proclaim'd War against the *French*; which had a good Effect, no more daring after this to meddle with the *French* Hatchet: That these *Indians* on *Ohio*, had concluded to kindle a Fire in their Town, and had invited all the *Indians* at a considerable Distance round about them to come to their Fire in the Spring; and that they had consented to it. Mr. *Weiser* added, that the *Indians* in the Parts these People came from, were numerous, not less than Five Hundred Men, and had many Allies more numerous than themselves: That it was always the Custom in War Time, to put the Management into the Hands of the young People; and that it would be of the most pernicious Consequence not to give them Encouragement at this Time; and

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particularly he thought the Council should at least tell them, they approv'd of their taking up the Hatchet; and acknowledge the Service done to the *English* by their seasonable Declaration in their Favour: He thought Providence had furnished this Province with a fine Opportunity of making all the *Indians* about the Lakes their Friends, and warm Friends too.—Mr. *Weiser* being asked what Sort of a Present should be given them at this Time, He said Goods were now so dear, that the Value of 100 Pounds would appear but small, that they should have so much given them at least, and Half as much to the *Canayiahaga Indians*. Not that this was by any Means sufficient, but would be a good Salutation-Present, and preparatory to a larger to be sent in the Summer. This he judged necessary to be done, and that they should now be told of this future Present: And, tho' he had never been in those Parts, yet he judged the attaching these *Indians* and their Friends to the *English* Cause to be so necessary, that he would, if the Council pleased, and his Health should permit, go with the Present himself, and see with his own Eyes what Number of *Indians* was there, and in what Disposition. He said further, that he accompanied the Secretary to Mr. *Logan's* Yesterday, and that the Secretary had informed Mr. *Logan* of all these Particulars, and taken his Sentiments in Writing, and on them form'd the Plan of an Answer. The Board ordered the Secretary to read what he had wrote; and on considering this, and Mr. *Weiser's* Information, an Answer was agreed to, and the Presents settled. The Council adjourned to Four o' Clock in the Afternoon, and directed that the *Indians* should be told to be there, in order to receive the Answer of the Council to their Speech.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, the 16th of November, 1747. P. M.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable ANTHONY PALMER, Esq; President;

And the same Members as in the Forenoon.

The *Indians* having taken their Seats, the President spoke as follows:

Brethren Warriors of the Six Nations,

WE the President and Council of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, have taken what you said to us into Consideration, and are now going to give you an Answer.

We are always glad to see our Brethren, and are particularly pleased at this critical Time, with your present Visit. You are sensible of the constant Friendship this Government has always shewn to the *Indians* of the *Six Nations*; and that, from their first Settlement in the Country, their Interest has been put on the same Foot with our own. And as long as you shall act up to your Engagements, you will never want the most substantial Proofs that we can give of our Regard for your Nations.

You tell us, that at the Beginning of the War, you receiv'd a Message from all the *English*, to stand neuter, and to prevail with your Allies to do the same; that in Compliance therewith, you did stand neuter, and all your Allies, except the Praying *Indians*, who promis'd, but broke their Word: That the

the *French* commencing Hostilities, you received repeated Messages from the *English* to continue neuter no longer, but to take up their Hatchet against the *French*; and that you and your Allies have accordingly done this. *Brethren*, You did well to hearken to the Messages sent by the *English*. Your Allies so readily concurring with you, shews you keep up a good Understanding with them; for which you are to be commended. You live in small Tribes at a Distance from one another: Separate, you will be easily overcome; united, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to hurt you: Like the Strings on which you put your Wampum, a single Thread is soon snapp'd, a few require more Strength; but if you weave them into a Belt, and fasten them tight together, it must be a strong Hand that can break it.

We are pleased to hear, that at the pressing Instances of the Governors of *New-York* and *New-England*, you have taken up the Hatchet against the *French*; who you know, notwithstanding their fair Speeches, have been from the Beginning your inveterate Enemies: And in Confirmation that we approve of what you have done, we give you this *Belt*.

By your String of Wampum you tell us, that you observe the *English* Kettle does not boil high, and you give the String to all the *English*, to encourage them to put more Fire under their Kettle.

As you address this to all the *English*, we shall send your String to the other Governors: But to lessen your Concern on this Account, we are to apprise you, that the *French* were sending large Forces in big Ships, well arm'd with great Cannon, over the Seas to *Canada*; that the *English* pursued them, attack'd them, took their Men of War, killed a Number of their Men, and carried the rest Prisoners to *England*. This Victory put a Stop for the Present to the Expedition intended against *Canada*: You are therefore not to judge by the Appearance Things make now, that the *English* Fire is going out; but that this is only accidental, and it will soon blaze again.

As this is the first Visit paid us by our Brethren the Warriors living on the Branches of *Ohio*, to shew that we take it kindly of them, and are desirous to cultivate and improve the Friendship subsisting between the *Six Nations* and us, we have provided a Present of Goods; a List whereof will be read to you at the Close of our Answer. They are at *John Harris's*, and the Interpreter will go along with you, and deliver them to you there. In the Spring we propose to send Mr. *Weiser* to you, and he will be furnished with a proper Present to be distributed to all the *Indians* at *Ohio*, at *Canayiabaga*, and about the Lake *Erie*. In Confirmation of what we say, we give you this *String of Wampum*.

Having receiv'd by the Traders a kind Message from the *Canayiabaga Indians*, to let them see we are pleased with it, we have sent them a small Present of Powder and Lead, by Mr. *Croghan*, which you will inform them of, and likewise of our further Intentions in their Favour, with this *String of Wampum*, which is given you for that Purpose.

The President and Council at your Recommendation will take Care to give *Scaiohady* a Present for his own private Use, and his old Friend Mr. *Logan* will do the same.

A String of Wampum.

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The *Indian* Speaker having consulted with *Scaiohady*, took up the Belt and Strings of Wampum in the Order they were presented, and repeating the Substance of every Paragraph, exprefs'd high Satisfaction at what the Council had said, and promis'd to fend the String of Wampum to the *Canayiahaga Indians*, who being their own Flesh and Blood, they were pleased with the Regards shewn to them. And in Testimony of their intire Satisfaction and Devotion to the *English* Interest, they gave the *Indian* Marks of Approbation, and danc'd the Warrior Dance.

A true Copy,

Nov. 25. 1747.

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*;

